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ON BEING FUNNY

Some persons are born funny; others acquire the art; others think they are funny when they are not—that is, they are ridiculous. Some funny persons are funny when they ought to be. Others are funny when they oughtn't to be—they are a nuisance.

Being funny is something that the world appreciates and is willing to pay for when the right person comes along and is funny at the right time. Charlie Chaplin is funny and is drawing \$650,000 a year for being so. Others are funny and get less, which is not at all funny. They are not funny enough or else they are too funny. Or maybe the circumstances in which they find themselves are not funny enough to draw such a price.

Being funny for a living is not usually a success. Very few are foolish enough to try such a method. Some start out with the intention of taking other folks' money while they are doubled up with laughter and are themselves taken in to some institution suitable for the purpose. Now and then a man makes a living on the laughter of his fellow-men.

Then there is the amateur funny man, the creature who is present at every entertainment, large or small, in every parlor convention, at every banquet or quiet dinner, the fellow who says or does the unusual thing at the unusual time. His success depends on the congregation.

A true and honest funny man is a joy forever. He is like an electric fan and an ice cold drink on a summer day. He is welcomed by everybody but the grinch.

WHEN GRANDMA WAS A GIRL

When grandma was a girl—or maybe it was great-grandmother, back there in the latter part of the eighteenth century—a stranger, indeed, was the heart of a daughter, at least strange in the light of modernity and changing fashions in daughters, as in everything else, and greater complexities of co-education and suffrage possibilities.

Whether we would return to the old days when grandma was a girl might be left unsettled without objection, but the letters of them might well be considered for more reasons than one.

Eliza Southgate was 14 years old and at boarding school when she wrote to her parents of her filial love. One letter was very urgent, asking for \$5 immediately to buy a wig so that she might be in style. She was not so far away from today in that fashion.

But this is digressing from the real object, to show how and what daughters at boarding schools wrote then. Let's read a letter Eliza wrote May 25, 1797.

"I hope I am in some measure sensible of the great obligation I am under to you for the inexpressible kindness and attention which I have received from you, from the cradle to my present situation in school," she begins. "Many have been your anxious cares for the welfare of me, your child, at every stage of my inexperienced life. In my infancy you nursed me and reared me up; my inclinations you have indulged, and my follies you have checked. You have liberally fed me with the bounty of your table and from your instructive lips I have been admonished to virtue, morality and religion. The debt of gratitude I owe you is great, yet I hope to repay you by attending to your counsels and to my improvement in useful knowledge."

And almost all girls wrote poetry when grand was a girl. Eliza wrote a poem in her letter, beginning with her but to her parents' care and ending with a prayer that her parents

be wafted to eternal peace when time should cease.

How many girls today, of 14 especially, could write a letter like this?

The Open Column

Palm Beach Suits.

Editor the Missourian: Wearing a palm beach suit in some localities and at some times is the act of a brave man or a fool. The reason is that the atmosphere, as regards the weather and also the temperament of the people, is not always favorable toward the thing of beauty and coolness.

The man who comes out in a palm beach suit at the beginning of the season is laughed at for rushing the matter, and the man who waits until toward the close of the season is accused of waiting for the annual August sale of such suits. The average wearer of palm beach apparel does so between times. Some are so afraid of being laughed at that they never blossom out.

Like many other things a palm beach suit is not necessary. It is, however, very comfortable and serves to attract attention to a person who otherwise could walk before a crowd of several hundred and be noticed by none except his friends.

If you have a suit of this description, wear it. If you haven't and your friends advise you to get one, buy one and then wear it. It is nothing to be ashamed of; it is something to be careful of.

A few disadvantages keep many from partaking in this pastime. When one has himself inside of a palm beach suit, he has to take serious note of the places in which he desires to seat himself. These suits have an abnormal attraction for everything that oughtn't to be on a suit of clothes.

Then, too, the clothes cleaner and presser is helped, since the delicate fabric, succumbs to dirt very readily.

M. G.

The New Books

English Essays.

Many essays have been considered to constitute a distinct type. "These are characterized by a personal confidential attitude of the writers toward their subjects and the readers, by an informal, familiar style and by a concern with every-day manners and morals or with individual emotions and experiences rather than with public affairs or the material of systematic thinking." This volume, "The English Familiar Essay," by W. F. Bryan and R. S. Crane of the department of English of Northwestern University, is concerned with this familiar essay.

The authors selected texts to show the development of the essay in England. This made it necessary to begin outside of England with Montaigne, the originator of the type. A brief extract from La Bruyere is also included. Except these, only British writers are represented; for example, Bacon, Cowley, Earle, Steele, Addison, Johnson, Goldsmith, Lamb, Hunt, Hazlitt, Thackeray and Stevenson.

Besides the selections of essays, the book contains a brief, but thorough, introduction, dealing with the historical development of the familiar essay. The volume also contains bibliographical notes, which include titles of the most notable complete editions, also notes which contribute to an intelligent appreciation of the text.

(Ginn and Company, New York; cloth, 471 pages.)

"The Honey Pot."

The temptation and the yieldings to temptation in stage life form the central theme in "The Honey Pot" by the Countess Barynska. Two girls, one thoroughly sophisticated in the ways of stage life, the other fresh and innocent and with a foundation of good morals to aid her, go out to conquer in stageland. The result is that the sophisticated girl succumbs to temptation and the unsophisticated one is saved by a miracle consisting of a play on words.

The philosophy of the book is all wrong. If conditions on the stage are like those which the countess paints so realistically, it behooves every girl to keep clear of it. In her portrayal of the life on the "boards," she does not leave one loop-hole by which a woman with talent and beauty may escape from the carions that go about "seeking whom they may devour." This is a gross exaggeration in view of the fact that many girls make successes on the stage and at the same time remain honorable.

"The Honey Pot" is an ordinary book—so ordinary that it is not even a delightful companion for an afternoon's recreation. It yeaves a "bad taste in the mouth" and serves to strengthen the unreasonable prejudices that exist toward stage life.

(E. P. Dutton and Company, New York; cloth, 324 pages, \$1.35 net.)

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EXECUTIVES AT STEPHENS FOR 1916-17



These girls will head the student organizations next year at Stephens College:

Top (left to right)—Miss Kate Stamper of Moberly, president of the Y. W. C. A.; Miss Mae Thompson of Rio Blanch, Colo., student government president.

Bottom (left to right)—Miss Elizabeth Brown of Macon, president of the dramatic club; Miss Mary Kirk of Nowata, Okla., president of the athletic association.

"SUFFES" ASK VOTES AT GAME

Give Away Pennants and "Equal Suffrage" Buttons in New York.

NEW YORK, June 6.—The "suffes" proved they are real sports at "Suffrage Day on the Diamond" at the New York Polo Grounds while the Giants and Cincinnati struggled for supremacy before the admiring gaze of thousands of suffrage baseball fans here.

Twenty-five charming young women in yellow, white and blue circulated through the crowds dispensing pennants, peanuts and Votes-for-Women buttons.

Among those who carried trays suspended from their necks by yellow ribbons were Miss Agnes Morganthau, Miss Bessie Brainerd, Miss Clara Greenhut, Miss Hannah White, Miss Molly Tolman, Miss Elka Lewi and Miss Elizabeth Seiber.

Last year the suffragists had to ask on bended knees for the privilege of having "Suffrage Day" upon the diamond. This year they were cordially invited to return.

The generals who conducted Suffrage Day are Mrs. Norman de R. Whitehouse and Mrs. John Blair, assisted by Miss Jane Thomson of Chicago, who has been baking cakes for suffrage in one of Broadway's show windows and selling tickets to her patrons between bites.

Colored Ballots Used in Primary.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., June 6.—Green and white will be the color scheme in the first test of statewide primaries to be held in West Virginia today. The Democratic voters kept their score of votes on green ballots, while the Republicans used the white. This is expected to make the count quick, easy and square.

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H. L. Kempster to Speak in St. Louis.
H. L. Kempster, associate professor of poultry husbandry, will speak before the St. Louis Poultry Association at the Marquette Hotel Thursday night.

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The purpose of the Audit Bureau of Circulations is to give advertisers absolute facts regarding the circulation of publications and to prevent advertisers from being imposed upon by publications that will not submit their circulation figures to the light of day.

There are 1,200 members in the A. B. C. More than 700 newspapers in the United States and Canada are members. The sixteen newspapers in Missouri that hold memberships in this important organization are:

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Columbia Tribune
Hannibal Courier-Post
Joplin Globe
Joplin News-Herald
Kansas City Journal
Kansas City Post
Kansas City Star and Times
St. Joseph Gazette
St. Joseph News-Press
St. Louis Globe-Democrat
St. Louis Post-Dispatch
St. Louis Republic
St. Louis Star
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